

CLAIMS

I claim:

- 5 1. In the combination of a string instrument and a chinrest attached to said string instrument,
the addition to said chinrest of:
- 10 a first audio interface device attached to and extending from said chinrest for attachment
to said string instrument and attached to or near the bridge of said string
instrument;
- 15 volume and sensitivity controller receiving input from said first audio interface device;
and
an output jack.
- 20 2. A combination according to Claim 1, wherein said first audio interface device comprises
a piezoelectric transducer.
3. A combination according to Claim 1, wherein said volume and sensitivity controller
comprises a potentiometer and a control knob.
- 25 4. A combination according to Claim 3, wherein said control knob is non-circular.
5. A combination according to Claim 1, further comprising a human grounding point.
6. A combination according to Claim 1, wherein said human grounding point comprises a
grounding wire inlaid in said chinrest adapted so that it contacts the player during use.
7. A combination according to Claim 6, wherein said human grounding point further
comprises electrically connecting a grounding wire to one or more of said string instrument's
strings.

8. A combination according to Claim 1, wherein said human grounding point comprises electrically connecting a grounding wire to one or more strings of said string instrument.

9. A combination according to Claim 1, wherein the chinrest further comprises:
a second audio interface device attached to and extending from said chinrest; and
a second volume and sensitivity controller receiving input from said second audio interface device.

10. A combination according to Claim 9, wherein said second audio interface device is a microphone.

11. A string instrument tailpiece, comprising:
a first audio interface device attached to and extending from said chinrest for attachment to said string instrument and attached to or near the bridge of said string instrument;
volume and sensitivity control for said first audio interface device; and
an output jack.

12. A tailpiece according to Claim 11, further comprising a human grounding point.

13. A tailpiece according to Claim 11, wherein said first audio interface device comprises a piezoelectric transducer.

14. A tailpiece according to Claim 11, wherein said volume and sensitivity controller comprises a potentiometer and control knob.

15. A tailpiece according to Claim 14, wherein said control knob is non-circular.

16. A tailpiece according to Claim 11, wherein said human grounding point comprises electrically connecting a grounding wire to one or more strings of said string instrument.

17. A tailpiece according to Claim 11, further comprising:
a second audio interface device attached to and extending from said tailpiece; and
a second volume and sensitivity controller for input from said second audio interface device.

5

18. A tailpiece according to Claim 17, wherein said second audio interface device is a microphone.

19. A chinrest for a string instrument, comprising:

10 a first audio interface device attached to and extending from said chinrest for attachment to said string instrument and attached to or near the bridge of said string instrument;
volume and sensitivity control for said first audio interface device;
a human grounding point and
15 an output jack.

20. In the combination of a string instrument with a tailpiece and a chinrest attached to said string instrument:

addition to said tailpiece of:

20 a first audio interface device attached to and extending from said tailpiece for attachment to said string instrument and attached to or near the bridge of said string instrument, and
volume and sensitivity controller receiving input from said first audio interface device; and

25 addition to said chinrest of:

a human grounding point, and
an output jack.

21. A combination according to Claim 20, wherein said first audio interface device comprises
30 a piezoelectric transducer.

22. A combination according to Claim 20, wherein said volume and sensitivity controller comprises a potentiometer and a control knob.

5 23. A combination according to Claim 20, wherein said human grounding point comprises a grounding wire inlaid in said chinrest adapted so that it contacts the player during use.

24. A combination according to Claim 20, wherein said human grounding point comprises electrically connecting a grounding wire to one or more strings of said string instrument.

10 25. A combination according to Claim 20, wherein the chinrest further comprises:
a second audio interface device attached to and extending from said chinrest; and
a second volume and sensitivity controller receiving input from said second audio
interface device.

15 26. A combination according to Claim 25, wherein said second audio interface device is a microphone.